

Message Text

SECRET

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21 10

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SNM-02 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 PM-03 SPC-01 AID-10

TRSE-00 DEAE-00 DODE-00 L-02 H-01 EB-01 /070 W

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R 010600Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7451

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

S E C R E T RANGOON 2824

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR BM

SUBJ: NARCOTICS EQUIPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. STATE 230484

B. STATE 212494

C. STATE 232571

1. AS AUTHORIZED REF A, I DELIVERED NOTE DECEMBER 1 TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HLA PHONE, SETTING FORTH US POSITION BASED ON REF B. IN MY INTRODUCTORY REMARKS I NOTED THAT (A) WE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY GUB'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION EFFORTS IN RECENT MONTHS (B) ON US SIDE, THERE HAD BEEN EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION WITHIN EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS DURING SAME PERIOD ON POSSIBLE PROVISION OF NARCOTICS EQUIPMENT TO GUB (C) WE ARE NOW PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO PROVIDE UP TO 18 AIRCRAFT IF SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE WORKED OUT, AND (D) TO SPEED NEGOTIATIONS WE PROPOSE THAT SMALL TEAM OF CIVILIAN TECHNICAL EXPERTS VISIT RANGOON AS SOON AS CONVENIENT.

2. HLA PHONE EXPRESSED INFORMED INTEREST AND APPRECIATION FOR US RESPONSE FOLLOWING JUNE 23 MEETING BETWEEN AMBASSADOR MARTIN AND GUB OFFICIALS. HLA PHONE, WHOSE MANNER WAS VERY CORDIAL, SAID
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THAT HE WOULD CONSULT GUB AUTHORITIES. HE MADE ON SUBSTANTIVE

COMMENT ON NOTE, BUT NODDED HIS UNDERSTANDING WHEN I CALLED ATTENTION TO PROPOSAL THAT SMALL TEAM OF US CIVILIAN EXPERTS VISIT RANGOON AND SAID TEAM COULD BE SENT QUIETLY AND QUICKLY IF GUB AGREEABLE.

3. DAW THAN HAN, DIRECTOR, EUROPE AND AMERICA DIVISION, MFA, AND A/DCM WERE ONLY OTHER PERSONS PRESENT.

4. BELIEVE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON REF B WOULD BE MORE MEANINGFUL AFTER WE RECEIVE GUB RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE.

5. RE REF C, WOULD PREFER THAT EMBASSY BANGKOK NOT RPT NOT INFORM RTG OF NARCOTICS EQUIPMENT OFFER TO GUB UNTIL GUB HAS RESPONDED TO OUR APPROACH. AT THIS STAGE IT CAN HARDLY BE SAID THAT WE HAVE BEGUN DISCUSSIONS WITH GUB.
LACEY

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